REMARKS:

Claims 1 and 3-12 are in the case and presented for reconsideration.

Claims 1 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Konushi et al. (JP 10-335179).

The Office states that the prior art discloses $SrTiO_3$ as a ferroelectric ceramic material. The Office states that applicant did not amend $(Ba_{1-x}Sr_x)TiO_3$ $(0 \leq x \leq 1)$, and that $SrZr_xTi_{1-x}O_3$ $(0 \leq x \leq 1)$ without dopants further meets the claimed material.

Claim 1 has been rewritten and now recites $Ba_{1-x}Sr_xTiO_3$ $(1 > x > 0.15$ and $0.15 > x \geq 0)$ and $SrZr_xTi_{1-x}O_3$ $(0 < x \leq 1)$. Neither of the recited ferroelectric ceramic materials is $SrTiO_3$.

The Office further states that Konushi et al. discloses that the material is formed from a PZT and PLZT. However, claim 1 recites $Pb(Zr_xTi_{1-x})O_3$ $(0 \leq x \leq 1)$ doped with Nb. Konushi et al. fails to teach or suggest $Pb(Zr_xTi_{1-x})O_3$ $(0 \leq x \leq 1)$ doped with Nb. Also, if x=1, then the claimed material is $Pb(Zr)O_3$. Therefore, $Pb(Zr_xTi_{1-x})O_3$ $(0 \leq x \leq 1)$ cannot be $PbZrTiO_3$ (PZT) since Ti is eliminated when x=1. Konushi et al. does not disclose or suggest $Pb(Zr_xTi_{1-x})O_3$ $(0 \leq x \leq 1)$. The possible values of x are limitations which Konushi et al. does not teach or suggest. Konushi only generally discloses PZT (e.g., $PbZrTiO_3$). $PbZrTiO_3$ is not claimed.

Also, claim 1 recites $Pb_{1-1.5y}La_y(Zr_xTi_{1-x})O_3$ $(0 \leq x \leq 1, 0 \leq y \leq 0.2)$. If x = 1, then the claimed material is $Pb_{1-1.5y}La_y(Zr)O_3$. Therefore, $Pb_{1-1.5y}La_y(Zr_xTi_{1-x})O_3$ $(0 \leq x \leq 1, 0 \leq y \leq 0.2)$ cannot be $PbLaZrTiO_3$ (PLZT) since Ti is eliminated when x=1. Konushi et al. does not disclose or suggest $Pb_{1-1.5y}La_y(Zr_xTi_{1-x})O_3$ $(0 \leq x \leq 1, 0 \leq y \leq 0.2)$. The possible values of x and y are limitations which Konushi et al. does not teach or suggest. Konushi only generally discloses PLZT (e.g., $PbLaZrTiO_3$). $PbLaZrTiO_3$ is not claimed.

Claim 6 depends from claim 1 and is therefore patentable for the same reasons as claim 1.

Claims 1, 3-5, and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,104,597 to Konushi et al. The Office states the same reasoning as in the rejection based on JP 10-335179 above. Thus, applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 is patentable for the same reasons stated above. Claims 3-5 and 8 depend from claim 1 and are patentable for the same reasons.

Claims 1 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,760,432 to Abe et al. In particular, the Office states that Abe '432 discloses $Ba_{0.85}Sr_{0.15}TiO_3$ and $(Ba_{0.85}Sr_{0.15})TiO_3$.

Applicant has rewritten claim 1, which now recites $Ba_{1-X}Sr_XTiO_3$ ($1 > x > 0.15$ and $0.15 > x \geq 0$) and $(Ba_{1-X}Sr_X)TiO_3$ ($1 > x > 0.15$ and $0.15 > x \geq 0$). The claimed materials do not include $Ba_{0.85}Sr_{0.15}TiO_3$ or $(Ba_{0.85}Sr_{0.15})TiO_3$. Claim 1 recites at least one element or limitation not taught or suggested by the prior art. The cited prior art fails to teach or suggest any of the materials recited.

Claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Konushi '597 in view of U.S. Patent 6,125,027 to Klee et al. As explained above, claim 1 now recites at least one limitation not taught or suggested by Konushi '597. Konushi '597 fails to teach or suggest any of the members of the Markush group recited in claim 1. Klee '027 likewise fails to teach or suggest any of the members of that Markush group. Claim 7 depends from claim 1, and is believed to be patentable for the same reasons stated above.

Claims 3-5 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Abe '432 in view of Konushi '597. As explained above, both Abe '432 and Konushi '597 fail to teach or suggest at least one limitation recited in claim 1. Both references fail to

teach or suggest any of the members of the Markush group now recited in claim 1. Claims 3-5 and 8 depend from claim 1 and are therefore patentable for the same reasons explained above.

Claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Abe '432 in view of Klee '027. As explained above, claim 1 recites at least one limitation not taught or suggested by Abe '432. Klee '027 likewise does not teach or suggest that limitation. Claim 7 depends from claim 1 and is therefore patentable for the same reasons explained above.

Claim 9 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Konushi et al. (JP 10-335179) in view of U.S. Patent 4,156,211 to Buswell et al.

Claim 9 has been rewritten and now recites the same Markush group that is recited in claim 1. Konushi et al. fails to teach or suggest any of the recited elements of the Markush group as explained above with regard to claim 1. Accordingly, claim 9 is believed to be patentable.

Claim 10 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Konushi et al. (JP 10-335179) in view of U.S. Patent 4,468,644 to Teague et al.

Claim 10 has been rewritten and now recites the same Markush group that is recited in claim 1. Konushi et al. fails to teach or suggest any of the recited elements of the Markush group as explained above with regard to claim 1. Accordingly, claim 10 is believed to be patentable.

Claim 11 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Konushi et al. (JP 10-335179) in view of U.S. Patent 5,801,601 to Gayle.

Claim 11 has been rewritten and now recites the same Markush group that is recited in claim 1. Konushi et al. fails to teach or suggest any of the recited elements of the

Markush group as explained above with regard to claim 1. Accordingly, claim 11 is believed to be patentable.

Claim 12 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Konushi et al. (JP 10-335179) in view of U.S. Patent 5,923,233 to Jantunen et al.

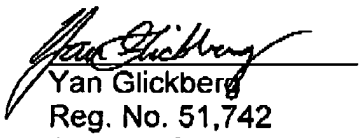
Claim 12 has been rewritten and now recites the same Markush group that is recited in claim 1. Konushi et al. fails to teach or suggest any of the recited elements of the Markush group as explained above with regard to claim 1. Accordingly, claim 12 is believed to be patentable.

Accordingly, the application and claims are believed to be in condition for allowance, and favorable action is respectfully requested. No new matter has been added.

If any issues remain which may be resolved by telephonic communication, the examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned at the number below, if such will advance the application to allowance.

Favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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For: VOLTAGE-DEPENDENT THIN-FILM CAPACITOR

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